

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 311600Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3989

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: SANCHEZ TORANZO CENSURED BY CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

1. AFTER BITTER DEBATE IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES NIGHT OF DEC 29, WHAT AMOUNTED TO MOTION CENSURING CHAMBER PRES NICASIO SANCHEZ TORANZO WAS PASSED BY VOTE OF 113 TO 92. CENSURE DID NOT MENTION SANCHEZ TORANZO BY NAME BUT WAS CLEARLY AIMED AT HIM. INDEED, IN PYROTECHNIC VERBAL EXCHANGES WHICH PRECEDED THE VOTE HE WAS NAMED REPEATEDLY. MOTION CRITICIZED "CHAMBER AUTHORITIES" FOR HAVING ALLOWED LABOR UNION THUGS (UOM BODY-GUARDS FROM LORENZO MIGUEL'S PRIVATE ARMY) TO ENTER GALLERIES ON DEC 19 AND SHOUT THREATS AND INSULTS AT DEPUTIES, THUS DISRUPTING SESSION.

2. SANCHEZ TORANZO MAINTAINED THAT HE HAD SIMPLY ALLOWED "SOME OF THE BOYS" TO ATTEND SESSION AND HAS SEEN NOTHING WRONG IN THAT. NONETHELESS, FOLLOWING VOTE OF CENSURE, SANCHEZ TORANZO WAS FULLY EXPECTED TO RESIGN. INDEED, REPORTS YESTERDAY (DEC 30) INDICATED HE HAD HIS RESIGNATION IN HAND READY TO PRESENT. REPORTEDLY, HOWEVER, DURING THE DAY HE WAS PERSUADED NOT TO RESIGN BY A GROUP OF VERTICALISTAS LED BY BLOC PRES JOSE AMERISE.

3. UCR BLOC LEADER ANTONIO TROCCOLI TOLD EMBOFF LAST NIGHT, HOWEVER, THAT IN HIS VIEW SANCHEZ TORANZO HAD BEEN PLACED IN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION AND WAS FINISHED

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AS CHAMBER PRES, WHETHER HE RESIGNED NOW OR LATER.

CLEAR FACT WAS THAT HE LOST CONFIDENCE OF MAJORITY
OF DEPUTIES AND THUS COULD NOT EFFECTIVELY PRESIDE
OVER CHAMBER.

4. COMMENT: VOTE COUNT ON CESURE MOTION IS SIGNIFICANT
AND REVEALING. THE 92 VOTES AGAINST THE MOTION REPRESENT
ABOUT ALL MRS. PERON'S GOVT CAN STILL CONTROL IN CHAMBER.
EVEN ALLOWING A FEW MORE, UP TO, SAY, 100 DEPUTIES
STILL WITH HER, THIS MEANS SHE IS FACED BY OVER 140
HOSTILE DEPUTIES. SHOULD 20 MORE DEFECT, SHE WILL FACE
A TWO-THIRDS OPPOSITION.
HILL

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